



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

February 3, 2023

NOAH SCHEER

[REDACTED]

FOIPA Request No.: 1572974-000  
Subject: WORTIS, ROSE

Dear Noah Scheer:

The FBI has completed its review of records subject to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) that are responsive to your request. The enclosed documents were reviewed under the FOIPA, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

Section 552	Section 552a
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(4)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(5)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(6)	<input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(4) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6) <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7)

5 pages were reviewed and 5 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

Based on the information you provided, we conducted a main and reference entity record search of the Central Records System (CRS) per our standard search policy. For more information about records searches and the standard search policy, see the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum General Information Section.

This is the final release of information responsive to your FOIPA request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Enclosed are cross-references that are identifiable with the subject of your request. Cross-references are defined as mentions of the subject of your request in files to other individuals, organizations, events, or activities. In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages that mention the subject of your request and any additional pages showing the context in which the subject of your request was mentioned.

Records that may have been responsive to your request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1228; Title 44, United States Code, Section 3310 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1229.10.

A record that may be responsive to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request has been transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). If you wish to review these records, submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to NARA, Special Access and FOIA, 8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500, College Park, MD 20740-6001. Please reference the file numbers:

100-HQ-120818 SERIALS 343, 958, 955, 1041, 1062, 1129  
100-HQ-148051 SERIALS 7, 12, 65, 62  
100-HQ-149693 SERIAL 155  
100-HQ-32538 SERIALS 69  
100-HQ-33049-1 SERIALS 12 P 57, 80  
100-HQ-33049-1 SERIAL 5 p24  
100-HQ-33049-34 SERIAL 114  
100-HQ-341898 SERIAL 108 p11-14  
100-HQ-341898 SERIAL 87 p12  
100-HQ-34616 SERIAL 63  
100-HQ-348312 SERIAL 1  
100-HQ-348312 SERIAL 2  
100-HQ-35102 SERIAL 51  
100-HQ-45768 SERIAL 66  
100-HQ-7166 SERIAL 98, 143, 187, 212  
100-HQ-7326 SERIAL 261  
100-HQ-75957 SERIAL 105  
100-HQ-79494 SERIAL 168  
100-HQ-92004 SERIALS 80, 3, 108, 127, 252, 202  
100-HQ-92637 SERIALS 100, 206, 226  
121-HQ-15286 SERIAL 58 Encl P14  
123-HQ-6408 SERIAL 14 p16  
61-HQ-10490 SERIAL 398 P19-20  
61-HQ-10490 SERIAL 510 p13  
61-HQ-7341 SERIAL 1031 P81  
61-HQ-7341-34 SERIAL 169  
61-HQ-7347 SERIALS 288, 309  
61-HQ-7559 SERIAL 466 2x

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. "Part 1" of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. "Part 2" includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. "Part 3" includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by emailing the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison at [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). The subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park,

Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(j)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does **not** include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
  - a. **Main Entity Records** – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
  - b. **Reference Entity Records** - created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative "FBI file." An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.edo.cjis.gov](http://www.edo.cjis.gov). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

## Wortis to Lecture On AFL at School

The special problems of the American Federation of Labor will be discussed by Rose Wortis as part of the seminar in trade union problems to be held January 10 to 21, under Workers School auspices.

Among the problems to be considered will be the position of the A. F. of L. on international labor unity and on labor unity within the United States; the struggle to integrate Negro workers into the A. F. of L. unions; the coming elections in the International Ladies Garment Workers Union; and the problems created by John L. Lewis' attempt to reenter AFL ranks.

The seminar will meet for two weeks, five days weekly, from 9 A. M. to 1 P. M. Among the instructors will be William Z. Foster and Roy Hudson. The fee for the course is \$15. Only active trade union members should apply. Write or call Elizabeth Lawson, Room 301, 35 East 12 Street.

RP (162-5693) - A  
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JAN 1944

This is a clipping from  
page 5 Sec. 1 of

THE WORKER

Date Jan. 5, 1944  
Clipped at the seat of  
Government

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington

DEC 11 1942

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice

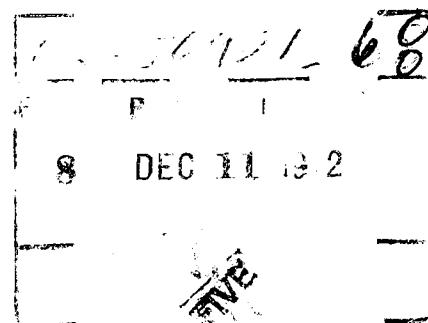
The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*J. T. Bissell*  
J. T. BISSELL  
Colonel, General Staff,  
Asst. Executive Officer, M. I. S.

Enclosures:

1 ENCL. B



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HEADQUARTERS FIRST SERVICE COMMAND  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

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808 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts

November 17, 1942.

Subject: HIGHLIGHTS OF TORONTO CONVENTION OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

Summary of Information:

An article by Rose WORTIS in the November issue of the magazine "THE COMMUNIST" edited by Earl BROWDER, General Secretary of the Communist Party reviews the events at the Toronto Convention of the A.F.L. This article is strictly for party consumption and its main purpose, the author states, is to show the trends developing within the A.F.L. and how the group is reacting to the most vital issues which are second front, international labor co-operation, and the unification of our trade union movement, which is all necessary for the making of labor's rule more active.

She notes with resentment that the Hutchinsons and Wolls continue to hold their grip in the A.F.L. and attempts to show just what there is for the Left and progressive forces within the union to accomplish to bring about the unity that Communists desire to see in the labor set-up. She notes that the A.F.L. did not come out in support of the second front and that the question of an international labor set-up was brushed aside and finds it difficult to find any single characterization of the Convention to adequately describe its decisions, for it was neither wholly reactionary nor wholly progressive and, in the words of the author "the Convention was not a model win-the-war affair". The Convention attracted 500 delegates representing five and one-half million dues-paying members and control of the Convention remained with the Hutchinsons and Wolls, who are despised by the Communists.

Early in her article, she explained that affairs of the A.F.L. remain in discord due to factions which keep it divided and disorganized, such as Daniel TOBIN of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousesmen and Helpers (most powerful of the A.F.L. groups) and David DUBINSKY of the International Ladies Garment Workers, both of whom joined with or capitulated to the anti-Soviet Hutchinson-Woll clique and controlled the Convention, causing even President William GREEN to retreat. Despite this, many policies of President Roosevelt were carried out, including stabilizing and controlling prices, and extending rationing as a means of strengthening the war effort. Reference was also made to the fact that the A.F.L. supported the Goyer-Popper Anti-Poll Tax bill.

Source: Confidential Informant

Previous Distribution:

None

Distribution:

MIS; EDC; FBI, Boston, Prov., New Haven,  
Albany; 1st and 3rd ND; All Districts;  
2, 3, and 4 SC; CG, FSC.

Evaluation	of source	of information
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reliable		X
<input type="checkbox"/> Credible		
<input type="checkbox"/> Questionable		
<input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined		

ENCLOSURE

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The author of this article for the COMMUNIST magazine stated that the delegates responded to pro-Russian talks and joined with others as sponsors for the Congress of American-Soviet friendship, and took credit for the CIO as furnishing the basis for the A.F.L. intensifying their efforts toward increased war production. However, the author's disappointment is noted in the failure of the A.F.L. to deal adequately with the Negro problem, and she urges the Left and Progressive forces to come boldly forward with proposals to augment the situation.

She went on to say that Labor's part in the war effort increases each day. The A.F.L. gained a million new members in a single year and has now reached almost 6 million and the author indicated that the amazing growth in both the A.F.L. and CIO shows a new development in the American labor movement. The new recruits to the A.F.L. fold make labor the most advanced anti-fascist section of the people. These newcomers to labor unions are mostly in the metal trades, shipyard and aircraft industries. It is noticed that the Boilermakers have doubled their membership in a year and now touch ninety thousand while Federal local unions jumped their membership by two hundred and fifty thousand. Unions are being forced to let down the bars against negroes and end restrictions on apprentice workers. Admittance of negroes to work at skilled trades shows a marked change in policy for the A.F.L. and indicates a new attitude and approach to the question.

Influx of new blood in A.F.L. unions has aided the group greatly in establishing production records--especially in shipyards, and she is quick to state that this show is in support of Russian aid and the Molotov pact. The author goes into detail naming locals where production is growing through the effort and spirit of unionized employees.

The second front question creeps into the article as the author tells of various locals within the A.F.L. signing pleas for action against the Nazis across the English channel. The author points out that Connecticut's resolution asking for the 2nd front was adopted, but it should be noted that the Left-progressive forces in Connecticut's A.F.L. groups are more consolidated.

Removal of business as usual elements within the A.F.L. is fostered by the author who leans toward the Left-progressive forces who are called upon to play a decisive role. In her talks about labor unity, she urges CIO and A.F.L. unity to better combat anti-labor measures sponsored by defeatist elements. Joint action by the groups will repeat such work as establishing the War Production Board under the leadership of Donald Nelson. Labor Victory Committees is another offspring of united labor activity.

Considerable space is given in this Communist-sponsored version of the A.F.L. convention to one Jack Tanner who did quite a bit of talking about the heroic, self-sacrificing spirit of the organized workers of the Soviet Union. Tanner represented the British Trade Union Congress. The author uses many of his statements and adds that Tanner's talk struck a responsive chord.

It is noted that the author sides with the factions in the A.F.L. that are seeking to reopen negotiations for full cooperation with Soviet and British labor as suggested by British and Russian leaders and supported by the CIO. The A.F.L. turned it down and suggested a liaison set-up which the Soviet refused, and the

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Hutchinson clique is blamed for defeating the aims of the international labor setup. To offset the Hutchinson actions in this case, the author reaches into the speech of William X Grogan, leader of the Transport Workers' Union, made at a recent Communist sponsored second front meeting to voice the pro-international labor set-up sentiments of the CP.

In conclusion the author says that the main task before the A.F.L. workers is the speediest realization of the second front, and states that there has been a sharp decline in red-baiting--evidently because the stamp of defeatist was placed on any one waving the "red flag." She claims that factions of the A.F.L. recognize the Communist party as playing a loyal and steadfast role in the war effort and seeking to develop labor's part in the struggle.

She closes her lengthy article by stating that the Communists are not out for control in the labor field, and "do not seek to dominate the unions as the red-baiters charge--all they want is the right to work in unions and aid in the great step being taken by labor in this country."

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